REMARKS

A telephonic interview was conducted on December 7, 2005 between Examiner Yasin M. Barqadle and Applicants' representative, Cory G. Claassen. During this interview, the two Notices of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review issued on November 4, 2005 and November 10, 2005, respectively, were discussed. The Examiner indicated that the first Notice issued on November 4, 2005 was the valid notice and the second Notice issued on November 10, 2005 was erroneous. Accordingly, the first Notice reopens prosecution, the rejection from the outstanding Office Action is withdrawn, and a new Office Action will be mailed.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at (206) 292-8600 if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: Jec. / 205

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